

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY  
PCT**  
**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

RECD 27 JUL 2001

WIPO

PCT

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>2297196/PHH/GH</b>	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).	
International Application No. <b>PCT/AU00/00631</b>	International Filing Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>2 June 2000</b>	Priority Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>4 June 1999</b>	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC <b>Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup> H01M 8/10, 8/12, 8/16</b>			
Applicant <b>CERAMIC FUEL CELLS LIMITED et al</b>			

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheet(s).

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I  Basis of the report
- II  Priority
- III  Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV  Lack of unity of invention
- V  Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI  Certain documents cited
- VII  Certain defects in the international application
- VIII  Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand <b>20 December 2000</b>	Date of completion of the report <b>19 July 2001</b>
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU <b>AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929</b>	Authorized Officer  <b>R.P. ALLEN</b> Telephone No. (02) 6283 2134

**I. Basis of the report****1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\***

- the international application as originally filed.
- the description,        pages ,        as originally filed,  
                                pages ,        filed with the demand,  
                                pages ,        received on    with the letter of  
 the claims,        pages ,        as originally filed,  
                                pages ,        as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,  
                                pages ,        filed with the demand,  
                                pages ,        received on    with the letter of  
 the drawings,        pages ,        as originally filed,  
                                pages ,        filed with the demand,  
                                pages ,        received on    with the letter of  
 the sequence listing part of the description:  
                                pages ,        as originally filed  
                                pages ,        filed with the demand  
                                pages ,        received on    with the letter of

**2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.**

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).  
 the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).  
 the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

**3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:**

- contained in the international application in written form.  
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.  
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.  
 The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.  
 The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

**4.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:**

- the description,        pages  
 the claims,        Nos.  
 the drawings,        sheets/fig.

**5.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\***

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\* Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU00/00631

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims <b>2-4, 6-13, 15-24</b>	<b>YES</b>
	Claims <b>1, 5, 14, 25</b>	<b>NO</b>
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <b>2-4, 6-13, 15-24</b>	<b>YES</b>
	Claims <b>1, 5, 14, 25</b>	<b>NO</b>
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <b>1-25</b>	<b>YES</b>
	Claims	<b>NO</b>

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**Citations

- (a) WO 96/28855 A1 (CERAMIC FUEL CELLS LTD) 19 September 1996
- (b) DE 19523637 A1 (MTU MOTOREN et al.) 4 July 1995
- (c) Derwent Abstract Accession No. 97-369261/34, Class L03, JP 09-157001 A, (ZH SEKIYU SANGYO KASSEIKA CENTER) 17 June 1997 & JP 09-157001 A
- (d) Derwent Abstract Accession No. 95-119921/16, Class X16, JP 07-045291 A, (SANYO ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED) 14 February 1995
- (e) Derwent Abstract Accession No. 98-277658/25, Class L03, JP 10-092446 A, (FUJI DENKI SOGO KENKYUSHO KK) 10 April 1998
- (f) CA 2227216 A1 (SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) 6 February 1997

Novelty & Inventive Step

Claim 1      Citations (a)-(c) disclose all of the features of these claims.

Claims 5, 14, 25      Citation (a) discloses all of the features of these claims.

Claims 2-4, 6-13, 15-24      None of the citations, or obvious combination thereof, disclose all of the features of any of these claims.

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

**PCT/AU00/00631****VI. Certain documents cited**

## 1. Certain published documents (Rule 70.10)

Application No. Patent No.	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date ( valid claim) (day/month/year)
EP 955686 A	10 November 1999	7 May 1999	7 May 1998

## 2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 70.9)

Kind of non-written disclosure	Date of non-written disclosure (day/month/year)	Date of written disclosure referring to non-written disclosure (day/month/year)